

April 5, 2024

Dear Lakewood UMC,

I write to you with surprise, amazement, sadness, and joy. I was not expecting to receive a new appointment at this time, and yet, God has something new in store for all of us!

Many of you know that Lakewood is my home congregation. You have raised me, confirmed me, and sponsored me in my pursuit of ministry, going so far as to take a great chance on me by welcoming me as one of your pastors. The last two years have been incredibly formative in my pastoral journey and I am indebted to you for all of the love and support you have shared throughout my life. Thank you does not begin to express the overwhelming amount of gratitude I feel towards this church and community.

While I am sad to be leaving this summer, I am so proud of all that we have accomplished together with God. I am also so excited and truly honored to be appointed as the pastor of Farmington UMC! I feel ready and equipped for this next step in my calling because of how each of you has prepared and guided me in ministry thus far.

I know that the future for Lakewood is bright because we are people who expand the light of Christ by seeking God, serving others, and sharing the loving message of Jesus Christ. I can't wait to witness how Lakewood will continue to expand the light in our community and world!

With love and gratitude,

Pastor Alyssa